

Employees celebrate Apollo anniversary

ON July 20, Johnson Space Center employees celebrated the 35th anniversary of the Apollo 11 lunar landing by listening to stories shared by Apollo-era employees, admiring classic cars, eating Moon Pies and examining historic Apollo memorabilia.

Clockwise from top: Legendary NASA engineer Max Faget was in attendance at the Apollo 11 anniversary events.

Moon Pies were a hit at the Moon-themed celebration.

Employees peruse the Apollo memorabilia in the Teague Auditorium lobby.

Milt Heflin, Chief of the Flight Director Office, and former Deputy Center Director Randy Stone share Apollo-era stories with the crowd.

The Classic Car Parade makes its way down Second Street.



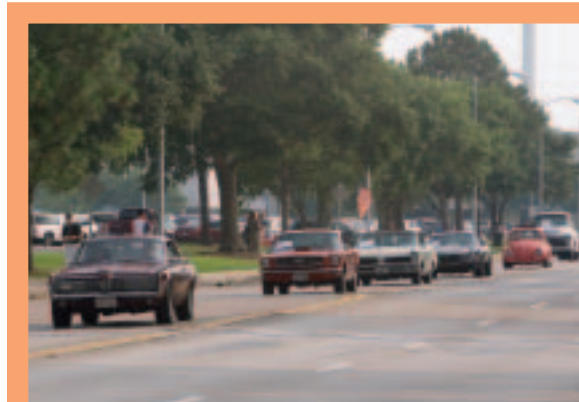
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Roundup

SPACE CENTER ROUNDUP

Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center



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Undersea explorers

Four NASA crewmembers looked to the deep seas last month to help prepare for journeys into deep space. They used an undersea laboratory to study what it may be like to live and work in other extreme environments, such as the Moon and Mars. Astronaut John Herrington (left) led the crew in an undersea mission that field-tested equipment and technology for the International Space Station as part of the NASA Extreme Environment Mission Operations project. Astronauts Doug Wheelock (right) and Nick Patrick (second right) joined Herrington, a veteran space flier and spacewalker; and Biomedical Engineer Tara Ruttle in the Aquarius Underwater Laboratory off the coast of Key Largo, Fla., for the mission.

Read more about this on pages 8 and 9.

Space Center Roundup

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Beak Sends...

A MESSAGE FROM CENTER DIRECTOR LT. GEN. JEFFERSON D. HOWELL JR.

Attitude



Like many of you I followed the progress of Lance Armstrong as he won his sixth straight Tour de France. In the final stages, after he had completely dominated the steep climbs in the mountains and left his closest competitors out of reach, all he had facing him was the last time trial and then the final ride into Paris. He had such a large lead, all he had to do was to make a decent showing in the final time trial and then claim his victory.

However, Lance Armstrong could not settle for an ‘OK’ performance. He wanted everyone, competitors and public alike, to know that he is the absolute champion. Instead of lying back, he once again dominated the race and won the trial by a significant margin. He proved beyond a doubt that he is the greatest bicycle racer in the world.

I’m not an expert on bicycle racing. I do believe, though, that a key ingredient to Lance Armstrong’s victory was his winning ATTITUDE. Surrounded by the best talent in the racing world, he stood on the winner’s podium at the end because of his guts, his incredible determination, and his indomitable spirit. He would not be denied. Just like Mr. Armstrong, I believe that whether or not you and I succeed both individually and as a team has a lot to do with our attitudes toward our personal lives and our work here at JSC.

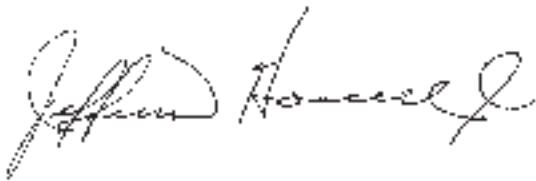
Charles Swindle wrote, “...we have a choice everyday regarding the attitude we will embrace for that day. We cannot change our past. We cannot change the fact that people will act in a certain way. We cannot change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play on the one string we have and that is our attitude. I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me and 90% how I react to it. And so it is with you.”

Steve Allen wrote, “One of the nice things about problems is that a good many of them don’t exist except in our imaginations.” According to Aldous Huxley “Experience is not what happens to a man: it is what a man does with what happens to him.”

We’ve had a ‘hard row to hoe’ for the past 18 months and there’s no indication that it’s going to get any easier for the next 18. However, we’ve turned the corner on the road to return to flight and we’re well on our way to a spring ‘05 launch. If we keep our eye on the prize, hang together, and keep giving our best effort, we will get it done.

Attitude. I’m convinced that with the incredible talent and winning spirit of the JSC team, we will overcome all hurdles, no matter how difficult. We will not be denied!

IT’S GREAT TO BE ALIVE AND IN HOUSTON!



Special delivery from Earth to space

by Melissa Davis



stronaut Mike Fincke will have a special delivery waiting for him when he returns to Earth in October: a four-month-old daughter he’ll be holding for the first time.

How do you feel knowing that this is the first child born to an astronaut living aboard the Space Station?

Well, I think it’s wonderful. It’s such an amazing adventure that we want to share it with everybody.

When Mike launched on April 18 from Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan, he left behind his pregnant wife Renita and 2-year-old son Chandra for his six-month stay aboard the International Space Station. During his stay, his family has grown by one more.

On June 18, Renita gave birth to Tarali Paulina Fincke. While orbiting 240 miles above the Earth, Mike still was able to be present at the birth – if only by cell phone. He is the first astronaut to celebrate the birth of his child from space.

After Tarali was born, Mike radioed to Mission Control to thank NASA for ensuring he stayed connected to his family during this special time in their lives. He also explained the meaning of their daughter’s name.

“Her name is Tarali Paulina, and Tara is the Indian dialect meaning star,” he said. “Our first boy, his name is Chandra, which means Moon. So, my wife had already given me the Moon, and now she’s given me a star, and it’s a privilege to (have it) happen aboard the International Space Station.”

Shortly before Tarali was born, Renita shared her thoughts about the historical birth – as well as other details of her life as a career woman and an astronaut’s wife.



What do you do at Johnson Space Center?

I’m an engineer. I work for Wyle Laboratories, and I’ve been here since 1990. I started as a quality engineer. I moved on to work as an integration engineer for the Medical Sciences Division at JSC. I worked on the Crew Health Care System for many years, and then after that I’ve been working on the biotechnology facility, which is part of the Bioastronautics contract.

Continued on page 4